

### ABSTRACT

A sternal closure device comprising impermanently joined sliding and receiving attachment structures which are adapted for intercostal positioning between at least two corresponding rib pairs and substantially surrounding a patient's sternum with each structure  
5 having a cross member, a plurality of integrated legs and foot members, a plurality of sternum engagement surfaces, and an end portion. The receiving structure further incorporates a resiliently tensioned catch member with angularly disposed teeth like structures positioned to receive and position a plurality of receiving structure projection members when inserted therein. The catch member further serves as a stabilizing structure for the entire apparatus with  
10 stabilization facilitated via an easily removed single screw like structure markedly facilitates quick release of the apparatus positioned and secured. The projection members further embody complimenting positioned teeth like structures to provide for racheting, unidirectional entry and positioning within the receiving structure, whereupon complimentary teeth engagement surfaces on catch and receiving member projection members facilitate secure and precision positioning of  
15 the invention.